

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-10

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, KE, US

SUBJECT: BRITISH MILITARY MISSION TO KENYA

REF: LONDON 11325

1. ASSISTANT HEAD EAST AFRICAN DEPARTMENT AT FCO, NIELSON, TOLD EMBOFF ON SEPTEMBER 25 THAT BRITISH MILITARY MISSION, HEADED BY MAJOR GENERAL R.S.N. MANS (REFTEL) EXPECTED TO REMAIN IN KENYA FOR ABOUT ANOTHER WEEK. AT SOME STAGE DURING THEIR VISIT THEY HOPE TO MAKE SURVEY IN FRONTIER AREAS. MANS PLANS TO DISCUSS HIS PRELIMINARY FINDINGS WITH KENYATTA BEFORE RETURNING TO UK TO PREPARE HIS FINAL REPORT. PRESENT PLANNING IS FOR MANS TO RETURN TO KENYA SOMETIME IN NOVEMBER TO DISCUSS FINAL REPORT.

2. NIELSON AGAIN STRESSED THAT MAN'S MISSION IS NOT TO SELL ARMS, BUT TO GAIN POLITICAL POINTS BY COMING UP WITH OBJECTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WILL SUGGEST EQUIPMENT FOR VARIOUS LEVELS OF EXPENDITURE THAT MIGHT BE AVAILABLE. BRITISH THINKING PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF ANTI-TANK WEAPONS, HUNTER AND STRIPMASTER

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AIRCRAFT AND ARMORED VEHICLES. BECAUSE OF THEIR OWN FI-

NANCIAL PROBLEMS, BRITISH FEEL ONLY WAY THEY CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE TO KENYANS FOR ANY PURCHASE IN UK WILL BE BY OBTAINING BEST COMMERCIAL TERMS, SPEEDING UP DELIVERIES AND OFFERING ANY NECESSARY TRAINING. ACCORDING TO NIELSON, WHEN NJONJO AND MACKENZIE (REFTEL) SAW PRIME MINISTER WILSON IN AUGUST, WILSON ASSURED THEM THAT HMG WOULD LICENSE ANY PURCHASE KENYANS WISH TO MAKE IN UK.

3. NIELSON PROMISED LET US KNOW OF KENYAN SHOPPING LIST AND MANS' RECOMMENDATIONS WHEN AVAILABLE.

ANNENBERG

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